

## REMARKS

Applicant has rewritten claim 4 in independent form and including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 2 was also rewritten in independent form.

Applicant is also submitting herewith a proposed correction to the drawings to show the axis of the cylindrical body as shown in red.

In amending claims 1-2 and 5-6 Applicant has added and wherein one of said mating bodies having a generally U-shape with tapered legs. This limitation is clearly shown in Figure 3. Accordingly, no new matter has been entered.

Original Claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by either Geiger et al. or Pusateri et al. Figs. 1 and 2. In making that rejection the Examiner states that each of the references show an airway airtight structure of a pneumatic tool comprising a main body having a body section, a cylindrical chamber formed in the body section an inlet formed in a predetermined position of a wall of the chamber for communicating with an incoming passage of a pneumatic tool. The Examiner also alleges that the references show a cylinder member having a hollow cylindrical body coaxially accommodated in the chamber, a wall of the cylindrical body being spaced on the inlet and a connecting section positioned in a position wherein an opening of the inlet is directed. The connecting section being sandwiched between the cylindrical body of the wall of the chamber.

Further, the Examiner stated “the connecting section including two mating bodies mated with each other a connection face being positioned between the opposite mating ends of the mating bodies, the connecting face being inclined from the axis of the cylindrical body by predetermined inclination angle, a connecting airway being formed in the mating bodies and extending through the connecting face to communicate with the inlet.”

It is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1-2 and claim 3 are clearly and patentably distinguished over the cited references. To be more specific, claims 1-3 each call for one of said mating bodies having a generally U-shape with tapered legs. Clearly this concept is not disclosed by Geiger et al. or Pusateri et al. Accordingly, claims 1-3 should be allowed.

Claims 5 and 6 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Pusateri et al. It is respectfully submitted that there is nothing in Pusateri et al. that shows a mating body having a generally U-shape with tapered legs.

Further, it is Applicant's contention that there is not any disclosure in the prior art references of a slope connection to achieve air tightness. In the Geiger et al. reference the slope connection between 10 and 12 as shown in the Figure does not connect the cylinder and the major unit. Moreover, it indicates clearly that the sliding status is between the reversing valve spool 10 and the plate 12. Accordingly, they would not present any close connection between 10 and 12. In fact, even if it presents the slope in comparison to the cylinder shaft there appears to be no connection between the slope and the cylinder shaft but just a device that controls the moving direction of the reversing buttons 25 30. Accordingly, it is Applicant's contention that claims 1-3, 5 and 6 are not anticipated by the cited references.

Applicant's position is further supported by the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure Section 2131. As stated therein:

TO ANTICIPATE A CLAIM, THE REFERENCE MUST  
TEACH EVERY ELEMENT OF THE CLAIM.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference...The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim. (Cites omitted and Emphasis Added)

Accordingly, it is Applicant's contention that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 should be withdrawn and claims 1-3, 5 and 6 should be allowed.

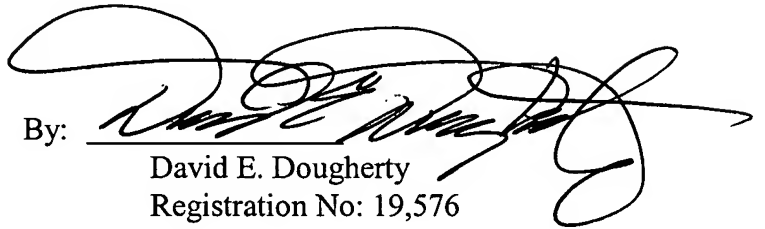
Since all of the claims are now in proper form and clearly and patentably distinguished over the cited art, prompt favorable action is requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 20, 2004

By:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David E. Dougherty', is written over a horizontal line.

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